GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1542
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2015
Sustainable Development Goals
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated plans to implement Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) specifically Goal-13 and Goal-15, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
(b) the steps, proposed to be taken by the Government to integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning as per proposed Goal-13.2;
(c) the efforts being made to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products; and
(d) whether the Government plans to set up a monitoring body consisting of Member of Parliament, eminent personalities, retired judges or any other persons regarding progress made on Sustainable Development Goals and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b): Government of India has initiated a number of steps to promote sustainable development including action relating to Goal-13 pertaining to taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts and Goal-15 pertaining to protection, restoration and promotion of sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainable forest management, combating desertification and halting & reversing land degradation and halting biodiversity loss.

Government has launched the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) in June 2008 to deal with the climate change related issues. NAPCC comprises eight Missions in specific areas of solar energy, enhanced energy efficiency, sustainable habitat, water, sustaining Himalayan Ecosystems, Green India, Sustainable agriculture and strategic knowledge for climate change. Further, States/Union Territories have prepared State Action Plans on Climate Change consistent with objectives of NAPCC highlighting State's specific issues relating to climate change. Other initiatives, as per India's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) submitted to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in October 2015, include introducing cleaner technologies in thermal power generation, promoting renewable energy generation, energy efficiency, developing climate resilient infrastructure, implementation of Green India Mission, programmes related to afforestation and activities aimed at reducing vulnerability to climate change.

(c): Government has taken several measures to control poaching like technology for improved surveillance of vulnerable forest areas by electronic and IT systems (e-EYE system), photo ID database of animals like tigers, deployment of local workforce for protection to complement efforts of the field staff, eliciting peoples' participation, etc. Forest Protection staff are also provided fire arms by the State Governments for dealing with forest criminals including poachers. Other steps taken by the Government include:
1. Prohibition of hunting and trading of wild animals under Wild Life Protection Act, 1972;
2. Setting up of Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.
3. Provision of financial and technical assistance to the States/Union Territories under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats", "Project Tiger" and "Project Elephant" for protection of wildlife and improvement of their habitat.
(d): The Sustainable Development Goals relate to Post 2015 Development Agenda. No decision has been taken for setting up a monitoring body consisting of Members of Parliament, eminent personalities, retired judges or such other persons regarding progress made on Sustainable Development Goals.

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